

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 23, 2003

For Information Contact Public Affairs HARRIET BERNICK

Telephone: (602) 514-7736 Pager: (602) 356-0004

BLACKJACK DEALER ARRESTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on July 23, 2003, Jonathan Joseph Orantez (D.O.B. 1/14/81) of Tucson, Arizona was arrested on charges of embezzlement from Casino Del Sol in Tucson. The arrest followed an indictment by a federal grand jury at Tucson, Arizona, on July 16, 2003.

The indictment alleges that Orantez, who was employed by Casino Del Sol as a blackjack dealer, embezzled \$400 from the Casino on April 26, 2003 and embezzled \$500 from the Casino on May 10, 2003. Orantez will have his initial appearance on the indictment on July 24, 2003, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Bernardo P. Velasco.

The federal indictment charges Orantez with two counts of violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 1168(a), theft by employees of gaming establishments on Indian land. Each count in the indictment carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

2

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Pascua YaquiTribal Police Department.

The prosecution is being handled by the United States Attorney's Office, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-1425-TUC-RCC

RELEASE NUMBER: 2003-129

#